

5-1961

Churches of Christ Salute You with a Herald of Truth: May Sermons

Herald of Truth

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CHURCHES OF CHRIST SALUTE YOU WITH THE

HERALD



OF

TRUTH

484
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ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
ABILENE, TEXAS

STATIONS CARRYING HERALD OF TRUTH TELEVISION PROGRAMS

City	Station	Ch.	Time	City	Station	Ch.	Time
ALABAMA				New Orleans	WVUE	13	11:30 a.m.
Birmingham	WBRC	6	5:30 a.m. (Wed).	Shreveport	KSLA	12	8:00 a.m.
Mobile	WALA	10	9:00 a.m.	MICHIGAN			
ALASKA				Detroit	CKLW	9	8:30 a.m.
Juneau	KINY	8	1:30 p.m.	Saginaw	WKNX	57	1:30 p.m.
ARIZONA				MINNESOTA			
Tucson	KOLD	13	10:45 a.m.	Mankato	WEYC	12	
CALIFORNIA				MISSISSIPPI			
Los Angeles	KTLA	5	8:30 p.m.	Greenwood	WABG	6	3:30 p.m.
San Francisco	KGO	7	9:00 a.m.	Jackson	WJTV	12	10:00 a.m.
COLORADO				Meridian	WTOX	11	12:00 p.m. (Sat.)
Denver	KBTX	9	9:00 a.m.	MISSOURI			
Gr. Junction	KREX	5	10:00 a.m.	Cape			
FLORIDA				Girardeau	KFVS	12	8:30 a.m.
Ft. Meyers	WINK	11	10:30 p.m.	Jefferson City	KRCG	13	2:00 p.m.
Orlando	WLOF	9	1:00 p.m.	Springfield	KYTV	3	8:30 a.m.
Panama City	WJHG	7	5:30 p.m. (Sat.)	NEBRASKA			
GEORGIA				North Platte	KNOP	2	12:30 p.m.
Augusta	WRDW	12		NEW YORK			
Savannah	WSAV	3		Buffalo	KWBW	7	8:30 a.m.
IDAHO				NORTH CAROLINA			
Twin Falls	KLIX	11	2:00 p.m.	Asheville	WISE	62	6:30 p.m.
ILLINOIS				Asheville	WLOS	13	9:00 a.m.
Harrisburg	WSIL	3	1:30 p.m. (Wed.)	Greensboro	WFMY	2	1:00 p.m.
Quincy	WGEM	10	11:00 a.m.	Wilmington	WECT	6	12:00 p.m.
INDIANA				NORTH DAKOTA			
Ft. Wayne	WPTA	21	12:00 p.m.	Williston	KUMV	8	4:00 p.m.
KANSAS				OHIO			
Great Bend	KCKT	2		Cincinnati	WCPO	12	8:00 p.m. (Sat.)
Topeka	WIBW	10	8:30 a.m.	OKLAHOMA			
KENTUCKY				Okla. City	KWTV	9	8:30 a.m.
Louisville	WAVE	3	9:00 a.m.	OREGON			
LOUISIANA				Portland	KPTV	12	8:30 a.m.
Lake Charles	KPLC	7	4:30 p.m. (Sat.)	PENNSYLVANIA			
				Johnstown	WJAC	6	10:00 a.m.

STATIONS CARRYING HERALD OF TRUTH TELEVISION PROGRAMS

City	Station Ch.	Time	City	Station Ch.	Time
SOUTH CAROLINA			VIRGINIA		
Charleston	WUSN 12	12:00 p.m.	Petersburg	WXEX 8	
			Portsmouth	WAVY 10	
SOUTH DAKOTA			WASHINGTON		
Aberdeen	KXAB 9	5:30 p.m.	Richland	KEPR 19	
TENNESSEE			Yakima	KNDO 23	
Chattanooga	WRGP 3	9:00 a.m.	Spokane	KREM 2	11:30 a.m.
Johnson City	WJHL 11	11:00 a.m.			
TEXAS			WEST VIRGINIA		
Abilene	KRBC 9	1:00 p.m.	Bluefield	WHIS 6	9:15 a.m. (Fri.)
Amarillo	KVII 7	8:30 a.m.	Clarksburg	WBOY	
El Paso	KELP 13	2:30 p.m.	WYOMING		
Fort Worth	KTVT 11	8:30 a.m.	Casper	KTWO 2	4:00 p.m.
Port Arthur	WPAC 4	9:30 a.m.			
Sherman	KXII 12	5:00 p.m. (Sat.)	CANADA		
UTAH			Saulte Ste. Marie,		
Ogden	KVOG 9		Ontario	CJIC	9:00 a.m.

This list is not 100% correct due to frequent changes.

All times are Sunday unless otherwise indicated.

Check your local newspaper or television station for times not listed.

OUT OF THE MAIL BAG

656 South Ave.
Bradford, Pa.

Dear Brethren:

I would like to know about the Bible course and the cost of it. I get the Herald of Truth here at eight-thirty in the morning Channel 7 Sunday morning. I look forward to hearing these good lessons Bro. Baxter is a wonderful speaker. I would like to come to Texas and meet all you nice folks sometime if the Lord willing. It will be a few months yet before our new church building here is completed but everything is coming along fine.

In Christian love
Mrs. A. M.

6537½ Cottage St.
Huntington Park, Calif.

Highland Church of Christ

Dear Brethren:

Enclosed you will find check for \$12.00 to cover a contribution of \$1.00 a month toward the support of the Herald of Truth radio program. I am so glad the program can be heard here on the coast.

I'm sorry we are not able to give more to this most worthy work.

I pray that you will not have to drop one station and that many may be added. May members of the church realize that *now* is the time to teach people the truth especially in our own nation, but not the exclusion of others.

Thanks for marvelous teaching.

Your sister in Christ
A. M. F.

~

Elders,
Highland Church of Christ
Abilene, Texas

Gentlemen:

In a recent issue of the Gospel Advocate I note that there is a deficit in the Herald of Truth broadcast fund. Enclosed herewith find check in the sum of \$5.00 for use in this very worthy project.

I am confident that no other single effort has done as much for the cause of Christ in modern days than has the Herald of Truth.

We are fortunate in this area in that we can, on occasion, get the telecast on WAVE-TV, Louisville, Kentucky.

I hope that the time will soon come when the telecast can be carried on one of the Lexington TV stations.

I trust that the good work being done by you will not fail by reason of lack of financial support. I only wish that I could afford more.

Fraternally,
C. R. C.

Perryville, Ky.

Find enclosed a check in amount \$50.00 — as of today. I believe we can reach more lost souls all over the world by this means than any other. I want to say I thank my Lord that I have this opportunity.

J. L. H.

Harper Woods, Mich.
March 4, 1961

Brethren:

Please continue sending us the "Radio Sermons" of the Hearld of Truth monthly.

Also would like to have 5 or 6 extra copies of Feb. 61, Radio Sermons. We like to read and study these sermons and pass them on to others.

Enclosed you will find our check for \$3.00, hope that this will help to cover cost and etc.

Yours in Christ,
W. & G. S.

Carthage, Miss.
March 1, 1961

Dear Brethren:

I receive the "Hearld of Truth" books of sermons and enjoy them very much. I also listen to it over the radio when I can get it, also watch it on T. V. when I can. You are to be commended for the wonderful work you are doing.

I am sending \$3.00, wish I had much more to send. Please continue to send me the book of sermons. I read them and then give them to others to read.

May the Lord continue to bless and keep you in the great work you are doing. I know that much and lasting good is being accomplished. There are thousands who have heard the truth that could not have read it if this good program had not been sent out by the way of radio and T. V. May we always have the privilege to use these means to carry the gospel to lost souls is my prayer.

A Sister in Christ,
R. S.

MAY GOD'S CHILD BE LOST?

ABC and MBS Networks

By E. R. Harper

Radio Sermon No. 484

May 7, 1961

My friends, in a former lesson I discussed the subject, "Whom The Law Cannot Condemn," showing that the child of God who walked "after the Spirit" and not "after the flesh" would not be lost because the Bible says in Galatians 5:23, "against such there is no law."

At that time I promised to discuss with you the question of the security of the believer or what will happen to God's child who walks after the flesh. Today I am discussing this question under the subject, "May God's Child Be Lost?" I do not have to convince you that this is a most popular doctrine which is taught by many. Millions now living believe this from honest hearts. Millions now living believe and teach that once you become God's child that no sin you may be able to commit can cause your soul to be lost. It is taught that the soul of a child of God cannot sin; that it is as pure as God Himself.

Yes, it is admitted that the flesh does sin, but that the soul of God's child is not responsible unto God. for what the flesh does, since they claim the flesh is not subject unto God. This is one of the cardinal doctrines of what we call Calvinism. One of the reasons why I am discussing this today is the effect that I believe such teaching has upon the minds of children who are constantly told this from youth.

Now if you teach a child from the day he can remember, that after that child becomes a Christian nothing he may ever do can affect his salvation, that his soul did not sin, could not sin, that it was only the flesh, and that the flesh is not subject to God and teach him that the soul is not responsible therefore for the actions of the flesh. When that child is grown it may stay with him. It is foolish, to me, to say that such reaction will not many times enter into what he does or does not do. If it doesn't, then down go all theories of our teaching system.

Our world is surrounded today with too much temptations to which the strongest many times fall victims, for us to begin at the cradle to teach the child that "once saved always saved," "once a child of God always a child of God," meaning that God cannot or will not disinherit him; or to teach them that once a Christian, their souls cannot sin, that their souls are as pure as God, and that the soul, that part that is born again, is not responsible for the actions of the flesh. It is taught that the flesh is destroyed in death and with that are destroyed all works of man, and the soul stands pure regardless of the life one may live. My good people, this has to influence the youth of our nation, and youth so influenced, will influence the adult, for this youth becomes the adult.

The idea is being taught that man loses only his rewards, but not his salvation. It is my firm conviction that just such teaching, coupled with the fact that some religions, directed by their leaders and ministers, arrange beer parties, dancing halls and various gambling devices for both their youth and their adults, it is my conviction that all this is one explanation for such tragic problems among the youth and adults of this day. All such churches of Christ **Oppose and Teach Against**. When we think of over 60 million adults out of 180 million population drinking some form of intoxicating liquors, with several million alcoholics costing our government over 20 billion dollars yearly for law enforcement and protection, we must know that somewhere the churches have fallen down in our approach to this thing.

I was eating lunch not long ago in a very fine city of this nation and across from my table sat four fine looking men, men of great mental ability. One of them said something like this in the course of his conversation: "You know, the meeting was a good one. We all had a good time. We mixed our martinis with other drinks and they were just great." The others replied something like this: "We never tried that, bet it would be wonderful." While sitting there a thing happened that called my attention to the man sitting closest to me. He had dropped a paper. He said, "Thank you, that is my Sunday school lesson." He is a Sunday school teacher of young people. Now frankly, that could not happen in a congregation of the church of Christ if we knew about it, but such is a very common thing in some circles. Now I ask you, what influence against drinking can this man have when such a man 60 years old, standing before these young people, is a leader in this type of social activities?

Now I know that not all men who drink a bottle of beer are out-laws. I know that not all girls and women who attend a dance are un-faithful wives or daughters. I know also that not all men who play a game of poker or take a chance on some church gambling raffle are renegades. But, good people, all this is on the wrong side of the Christian ledger. No nation can long live whose population, 60 million of them, are engaged in drinking intoxicating liquors and defend the ballrooms and dance halls. This man, of whom I have spoken, said that after they had had their drinks they then began the dance. Here were church leaders, from the middle age of life to three score years, yes, church leaders, drinking and dancing; thinking, seemingly, nothing wrong as they trained the youth of their classes that such a way of life is harmonious with Christian living.

YOUR BIBLE SPEAKS

Will you now let your Bible speak concerning this way of life? Will you let it answer the question, "May a Child of God Be Lost?" Is it possible for the one who has once been saved, who has been born again, washed in the blood of Christ, to so live as to be lost? Is it possible that the Bible teaches God's child that once he is saved he may lie, get

drunk, even commit murder, die in the act and still be saved because it is the flesh that committed the sin and not the soul, and therefore the soul is not responsible?

BOGARD SPEAKS

That you may know I have not misrepresented this; I now read to you from a debate I have before me—which debate took place as late as 1938: "The reason given why they cannot sin is not because they can't do it consistently - his seed remaineth in you - therefore you cannot sin! Jesus Christ remains in us! That prevents sin. My soul sin? No—In my soul I do not. I am as perfect as God himself as far as my soul is concerned. Then what about my body? It does sin." (Hardeman - Bogart Debate, pp 309 - 310). Yes, this man was one of the greatest leaders and debaters of his church that his generation produced. According to him the soul born again could not sin, but was as perfect as God; only in his body the flesh did he sin.

My friends, do you know what you are supporting religiously? Do you know what the religious communion to which you belong is supposed to teach? To our brethren we tell them they should know what they believe, not just support a congregation of the church of Christ because it is convenient for them to be a part of it. How many of you listening to me now believe that the soul of a Christian is not responsible for the sins committed while that soul dwells in your body of fleshly desires?

I met two men in my lifetime who took just such positions. I sat in the home of a man years ago. In that room were his wife, his only son and daughter-in-law. He was the superintendent of a Sunday school. He told me that if he were to rob every bank in that section, kill every man in cold blood, murder and die in the act, he would not be lost because it was the old fleshly man doing the robbing and killing, and his soul was not responsible. Yes, he believed it! Such is the theory of "once saved always saved." Do you subscribe to such a doctrine?

THE BODY SINS

Now I shall show you from the Bible that every part of a child of God may sin. The first is that of the body of a child of God. In Romans 6:12 your Bible says, "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey the lust thereof." To whom was he writing? To the Christians at Rome. They could yield their bodies unto sin. In I Corinthians 9:27, Paul says, "I buffet my body, and bring it unto bondage, or subjection, lest by any means after I have preached to others, I myself should be rejected." From this it is easily seen that Christians may sin in the body and God's answer to this is that we bring our bodies into subjection, for if we do not, we ourselves shall be rejected, lost. Before I close this part regarding the sins of the body may I read to you from your Bible again, this time from I Corinthians 6:19-20. It reads, "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which

ye have from God: and ye are not your own; for ye were bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your Spirit, which are God's." Here the body of a Christian belongs to God, not to the devil. It is bought with a price. When the Lord bought you, He bought all of you. He redeemed the whole of you from the devil and now your body belongs to God, not to the devil and it is to be controlled by your spirit that dwells in you. It is your spirit that continues to fight against the flesh. (Galatians 5:16-24). When your spirit yields to the desires of the flesh your spirit sins and you are held accountable for that sin before God.

You ask: What is the final result of such a sin while in the body? In Romans 6:23 Paul, writing to Christians, said, "For wages of sin is death." In verse 16 of this same chapter your Bible says, "Know ye not that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" Writing this to Christians! This was not physical death, for all must die physically (Hebrews 9:27). This was a death, the direct result of sin, and that is the second death of Revelation 20:14. Christ, speaking to His twelve apostles in Matthew 10:28, said to them. "Be not afraid of them that kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." My good people, we can't escape the consequences of sin by trying to salve our conscience with the theory that the soul of man is not responsible for the sins of man after he becomes a Christian, teaching that the soul of a Christian is as perfect as God and therefore cannot sin. You just be sure you and your children do not die that way. Such a theory is not even good to live by, much less die by. For, believing such a theory could cause man to wink at his desires and enjoy them on the ground that his soul is not responsible and that his flesh enjoys it.

THE SPIRIT

I shall now show you that the spirit of a Christian may sin. I read in your Bible, this time from II Corinthians 7:1-2 as follows: "Having therefore these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh, and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." Here the spirit of God's children in Corinth had become defiled. There is but one thing, only one, that can defile the spirit of God's child; that is sin. Righteousness can't do it. Therefore, the basis for the doctrine of "once saved always saved" has to be wrong, for here the spirit, that part admitted to be born again, became defiled the same as the flesh and the command was given to both the flesh and the spirit, namely to, "cleanse the flesh and the spirit" and in the place of sin, perfect the righteousness of God.

You will notice that the man whose spirit and flesh had become defiled was commanded to cleanse both his spirit and his flesh! Just how could that be done? In a later lesson I shall answer this question in detail but sufficient to say that it is done by confessing that wrong, re-

penting of that sin, and praying God for the forgiveness of wrongs, and the blood of Christ will cleanse His child of sin (Acts 8:22; I John 1:7-9).

This is God's child, not one who has never been saved. One who has never been saved by the blood of Christ must come as Christ commanded in the Great Commission, which commission was to the world, and every creature in all the world. This is found in Mark 16:15-16 where the Lord said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Christ here plainly says that every creature in all the world, who is capable of being taught the gospel, has to believe and be baptized to be saved. This done and he is cleansed by the blood of Christ. After this, he may sin in body and spirit, says your Bible in II Corinthians 7:1-2. He must again be cleansed by the blood of Christ, but this time he does not have to be baptized again, for by having obeyed the Great Commission of the Master he became a child of God. Now as a child he cleanses himself by confessing his sins, repenting of those sins, and praying God, through Christ, to forgive him and Christ's blood again becomes the cleansing power for sins. But remember, this was the spirit of God's child that became defiled and had to be cleansed.

CONCLUSION

From this we must conclude that God's child may sin both in the body and in the spirit; that the spirit of man is responsible for the sins of the flesh; and that the spirit must overcome the desires of the flesh, else God's child is lost. His child must cleanse himself by the blood of Christ, both in his body and the spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord or be lost, for your Bible says, "The wages of sin is death." All this was written to Christians. Why this if they can't be lost?

Be listening next time as I show you the "soul and mind" of God's child may be corrupted and God's child be lost. May God bless you is my prayer in the name of Christ.

~

Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Brethren:

I am enclosing in this letter \$5.00 to help in preaching the truth to the world.

I appreciate the Herald of Truth and the fine work it is doing. The speakers are the best. I listen each Sunday morning.

Sincerely,
Mrs. C. F.

THE SOUL THAT DIES

ABC and MBS Networks

By E. R. Harper

Radio Sermon No. 485

May 14, 1961

In Ezekiel Chapter 18 and verse 20 we find this statement, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." This lesson shall be primarily for those of us who believe the Bible story of man, that man was created in the image of God and to that man was given a soul that shall live on throughout all eternity.

Since the Bible teaches that the soul of man shall never cease to be, then what means this expression by the prophet, "The soul that sinneth it shall die."

We must recognize this fact, that there are two kinds of death; one is physical death. That death separates our souls from our bodies and we pass from time into eternity. This is the death the writer of Hebrews 9:27 had in mind when he said, "It is appointed unto men once to die; after this the judgement." In I Corinthians 15:22 your Bible again says, "For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive."

From these it is plainly taught that all men must die physically.

TO WHOM DID HE WRITE THIS?

It will be of interest to note that this letter written by the prophet of God was to God's own covenant people, for in verses 30 through 32 the prophet says this: "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel." Then he says, "Return ye, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, wherein ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord Jehovah: wherefore turn yourselves, and live. Now it was to God's people that God's prophet wrote, "The soul that sinneth it shall die." And, in the closing of this chapter he plainly shows that this is a death which is the result of their iniquities and their transgressions and he begs of them that they make for themselves a new heart and a new spirit that this death may not come upon them, God's people.

WHAT IS THIS DEATH CALLED?

In Revelation 20:14-15, your Bible reads, "And death and hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, even the lake of fire. And if any was not found written in the book of life, he was cast into the lake of fire." Now this second death is the "death of the soul." That soul, whose name does not appear in the "book of life" or

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THE SOUL THAT DIES

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whose name has been erased from the "book of life" as in Revelations 3:5, shall die this "second death"; shall be lost in a devil's hell. This death comes after the death of our bodies.

If you will read Revelations 20:11-15, you will find this second death follows the resurrection of the dead and their escaping this "second death," is to be determined by the thing "written in the books, according to their works."

THIS DEATH NOT ANNIHILATION

There is a theory that declares that the souls of all who are not saved shall be annihilated, that is completely destroyed. The suggestion is made that death means complete destruction. This is an erroneous impression of death. Death means a separation. We speak of a man's being "dead to that way of life." We do not imply that the man has been annihilated, but simply that he has separated himself from that way of life. In Romans 6:11 your Bible says, "Reckon ye also yourselves to be dead unto sin, but alive unto God in Christ Jesus." Here we have a death. Both sin and man however still remain. Neither has been annihilated, yet man is said to be dead unto sin. Since both sin and the man still remain, how then is he said to be dead unto sin? He has separated himself from sin.

In James 2:26 we have what to me is a beautiful picture of what death really is. James says, "For as the body apart from the spirit is death, even so faith apart from works is dead." Here death was the separation of body from the spirit, but the spirit was not annihilated; it still lived. Concerning this great subject I read Paul's second letter to the church in Thessalonica, Chapter 1 and Verse 9 where it reads: "Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of God and the glory of his power." Your Revised Standard Version reads like this, "Who shall suffer punishment, even eternal destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his power."

"Here, man that is lost for not obeying the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, verse 8, was not to be annihilated, but was to be "punished with an eternal separation from the presence of God and from the glory of his power." So we must conclude that this death, which is called the "death of the soul," is not annihilation. The ceasing to exist, it is but a separation, a banishment from God throughout all eternity together with the punishment to be endured by that soul for either not having obeyed the gospel, or for having sinned after obeying the gospel and having died in that sin as God's child without repenting of the wrongs done. Let no man deceive you, the prophet of God said to God's own covenant people that unless they turned away from their iniquities and made for themselves new hearts and new spirits that every soul among them that had sinned should die—that is to be lost.

NEW TESTAMENT

The New Testament is plain concerning the soul of a Christian standing in danger of this second death. I know some are ready to say

to me, "Brother Harper, once a man becomes a child of God, his soul can't sin—he can't be lost."

Will you accept what your Bible says about this? If so, turn now with me to James 5:19-20. The apostle of the Lord has this to say: "My brethren, if any among you err from the truth, and one convert him; let him know that he that converteth a sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall cover a multitude of sins." Here it is the soul that has sinned. How has that soul sinned? James says "by having erred from the truth."

This true, then it makes a difference what a man believes religiously. But one thing certain, your Bible says this man "saved a soul from death" and that was the soul of a brother in Christ. Remember the Bible says, "If any among you — not the lost but among you do err." Leaving the truth constituted a sin and the brother who was carried away from the truth by this error was called a sinner whose soul was lost. Yes, the soul of a child of God may be lost!

Speaking to His apostles, the Lord said to them in Matthew 10:28, "Rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." In I Thessalonians 5:23 your Bible says, "And may your spirit and soul and body be preserved entire, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." Why pray this prayer if neither the spirit nor the soul could appear before God, at the coming of the Lord, condemned? Why specify the "soul and spirit" and pray for them together with the body, if only the body could sin? Why if only the body would appear with sin and the soul and spirit go free? Why would the Lord warn His apostles to fear him who could "destroy both soul and body in hell" if it be impossible for the soul of God's child to be lost in hell? If the doctrine, "once saved always saved" be true, then what mean all these warnings?

In Acts 15:24 we have these words, "For as much as we have heard that certain who went out from us have troubled you with words, Subverting your souls; to whom we gave no commandment." They have done what? They have subverted their souls. What does it mean to subvert? It means "to ruin utterly; to overturn; to pervert." To whom is he writing? Verse 23 says; "Unto the brethren in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia." Then preach to me that there is no danger in a child of God being lost? Listen to your Bible, this time from Hebrews 13: 17 where it reads, "Obey them that have the rule over you—these are the elders of the church — for they watch in behalf of your souls, as they that shall give account: that they may do this with joy, and not with grief; for this were unprofitable for you." Why watch over souls that cannot sin: that are as "perfect as God Himself" as was stated by one of the defenders of this doctrine, "once saved always saved," in a debate? Just what, pray tell me, would the elders be looking for? Just what could a soul as "perfect as God," one that cannot sin be doing to cause the elders grief as they reported such a soul to the Lord, or what could be

THE HERALD OF TRUTH MAY BE HEARD OVER THESE ABC AND MBS STATIONS

City	Station	Time	City	Station	Time
ALABAMA			San Bernadino	KCKC	8:30 p.m.
Anniston	WHMA	8:30 p.m.	San Diego	KGB	8:30 p.m.
Auburn	WAUD	8:30 p.m.	San Francisco	KGO	8:30 p.m.
Bay Minette	WBCA	12:30 p.m.	Ukiah	KMSL	
Birmingham	WATV	8:30 p.m.	COLORADO		
Calera	WBYE	5:35 p.m.	Denver	KOSI	8:00 a.m.
Clanton	WKLF		CONNECTICUT		
Decatur	WAJK	1:05 p.m.	Bridgeport	WNAB	9:30 p.m.
Dothan	WOOF	12:35 p.m.	Putnam	WINY	6:35 p.m.
Eufaula	WULA	5:35 p.m.	Torrington	WTOR	6:35 p.m.
Flomaton	WTCB	8:30 a.m.	FLORIDA		
Florence	WOWL	8:30 p.m.	Fort Pierce	WARN	7:45 a.m.
Foley	WHEP	1:00 p.m.	Jacksonville	WPDQ	8:30 a.m.
Gadsden	WGAD	8:30 p.m.	Miami	WMIE	5:30 p.m.
Haleyville	WJBB	5:35 p.m.	Milton	WSRA	
Mobile	WABV	8:00 a.m.	New Smyrna		
Sylacauga	WFEB	5:35 p.m.	Beach	WSBB	6:35 p.m.
Talladega	WHTB	1:00 p.m. (Sat.)	Sebring	WSEB	
Troy	WTBF	5:35 p.m.	Tampa-St.		
ALASKA			Petersburg	WSUN	7:30 a.m.
Fairbanks	KFBR	8:30 a.m.	Winter Haven	WSIR	6:35 p.m.
Sitka	KIFW	9:00 p.m. (Wed.)	GEORGIA		
ARIZONA			Bremen	WWCC	8:30 a.m.
Flagstaff	KCLS	8:00 a.m.	Cartersville	WBHF	6:35 p.m.
Sierra Vista	KHFH	1:30 p.m.	Cordele	WMJM	6:35 p.m.
ARKANSAS			Fitzgerald	WBHB	6:35 p.m.
Berryville	KTCN	7:45 a.m.	Griffin	WKEU	8:05 a.m.
Blytheville	KLCN	8:30 a.m.	Hinesville	WGML	
Camden	KAMD	5:35 p.m.	La Grange	WLAG	9:00 a.m.
Corning	KCCB	1:30 p.m.	Savannah	WBYG	6:35 p.m.
Helena	KFFA	5:35 p.m.	Rome	WLAG	9:30 p.m.
Jonesboro	KBTM	5:35 p.m.	Thomson	WTWA	6:35 p.m.
Little Rock	KARK	5:30 p.m.	West Point	WRLD	9:30 p.m.
McGehee	KVSA	9:00 a.m.	IDAHO		
Prescott	KTPA		Albion	KMVC	
CALIFORNIA			Idaho Falls	KID	8:00 a.m.
Bakersfield	KMAP		Lewiston	KOZE	8:30 p.m.
Chico	KPAY	7:35 p.m.	Moscow	KPRL	3:35 p.m.
Los Angeles	KABC	8:00 p.m.	Nampa	KFXD	1:30 p.m.
Napa	KVON	3:35 p.m.	Rupert	KAYT	9:00 a.m.
Needles	KSFE	7:00 a.m. (Wed.)	ILLINOIS		
Redding	KSDA		Peoria	WPFO	

THE HERALD OF TRUTH MAY BE HEARD OVER THESE ABC AND MBS STATIONS

City	Station	Time	City	Station	Time
INDIANA			Greenwood	WABG	4:30 p.m.
Boonville	WBNL	5:35 p.m.	Jackson	WJDX	9:30 p.m.
Lafayette	WASK	9:05 a.m.	Natchez	WNAT	2:00 p.m.
North Vernon	WOCH	8:30 a.m.	Vicksburg	WQBC	5:35 p.m.
Vincennes	WAOV	5:35 p.m.	West Point	WROB	5:35 p.m.
IOWA			MISSOURI		
Fort Dodge	KVFD	8:05 a.m.	Cape Girardeau	KFVS	7:30 a.m.
Sioux City	KSCJ	10:30 p.m.	Dexter	KDEX	
KENTUCKY			Joplin	WMBH	5:35 p.m.
Frankfort	WFKY	6:35 p.m.	Kansas City	KCMO	8:30 a.m.
Henderson	WSO	7:00 a.m.	Moberly	KNCM	5:35 p.m.
Hopkinsville	WKO	7:15 a.m.	Rolla	KTTR	1:00 p.m.
Madisonville	WFMW	5:35 p.m.	St. Joseph	KRES	6:35 p.m.
Mayfield	WNGO	2:30 p.m.	St. Louis	KXEN	8:30 a.m.
Paducah	WPAD	8:30 a.m.	MONTANA		
Paintsville	WSIP	6:35 p.m.	Anaconda	KANA	8:05 a.m.
Pikesville	WPKE	6:35 p.m.	Lewistown	KXLO	4:30 p.m.
Somerseset	WSFC	6:35 p.m.	Wolf Point	KVCK	4:35 p.m.
LOUISIANA			NEBRASKA		
Lake Charles	KLOW		Kearney	WGFV	8:05 a.m.
Shreveport	KRMD	8:30 p.m.	McCook	KBRL	5:35 p.m.
Winfield	WVCL	8:00 a.m.	Omaha	KMEO	
MARYLAND			Scottsbluff	KNEB	
Hagerstown	WJEJ	9:30 p.m.	NEVADA		
MASSACHUSETTS			Reno	KBET	8:30 p.m.
Fall River	WALE	6:35 p.m.	NEW HAMPSHIRE		
Gardner	WGAW	6:35 p.m.	Keene	WKNE	1:05 p.m.
MICHIGAN			Nasha-		
Detroit	WXYZ	10:00 p.m.	Manchester	WSMN	9:30 p.m.
Escanaba	WDBC	8:30 p.m.	Portsmouth	WBBX	
Flint	WTRX	9:30 p.m.	NEW MEXICO		
Ludington	WKLA	9:30 p.m.	Artesia	KSVP	6:35 p.m.
Muskegon	WKBZ	9:30 p.m.	Roswell	KGFL	4:35 p.m.
MINNESOTA			Silver City	KSIL	4:35 p.m.
Albert Lea	KATE	8:30 p.m.	NEW YORK		
Duluth	WQMN	5:35 p.m.	Corning	WCLI	6:35 p.m.
Eveleth	WEVE	5:35 p.m.	Malone	WICY	6:35 p.m.
MISSISSIPPI			Massena	WMSA	9:30 p.m.
Centerville	WGLC	8:00 a.m.	New York	WABC	9:30 p.m.
Clarksdale	WROX	5:35 p.m.	Saranac Lake	WNBZ	9:30 p.m.
Greenville	WJPR	5:35 p.m.			

THE HERALD OF TRUTH MAY BE HEARD OVER THESE ABC AND MBS STATIONS

City	Station	Time	City	Station	Time
NORTH CAROLINA			Johnstown	WCRO	8:30 a.m.
Belmont	WCGC	6:35 p.m.	Lock Haven	WBPZ	6:35 p.m.
Burlington	WBBB	6:35 p.m.	Milton	WMLP	
Durham	WTKI	9:30 p.m.	Pittsburgh	KQV	10:00 p.m.
Gastonia	WGNC	9:30 p.m.	St. Mary's	WKBI	6:35 p.m.
Goldsboro	WFMC	1:00 p.m.	Scranton	WICK	9:35 p.m.
Hender-			Tyrone-		
sonville	WHKP	2:30 p.m.	Altoona	WTRN	7:35 a.m.
Lenoir	WJRI	6:35 p.m.	Washington	WJPA	8:35 a.m.
Mt. Airy	WSYD	6:35 p.m.	Wellsboro	WNBT	6:35 p.m.
Reidsville	WFRC	9:30 p.m.	Wilkes Barre	WILK	9:30 p.m.
Roanoke			Williamsport	WMPT	9:30 p.m.
Rapids	WCBT	6:35 p.m.	SOUTH CAROLINA		
Rocky Mount	WEED	9:30 p.m.	Bennettsville	WBSC	6:35 p.m.
Wilson	WGTM	6:35 p.m.	Charleston	WOKE	4:35 p.m.
NORTH DAKOTA			Georgetown	WGTV	6:35 p.m.
Devils Lake	KDLR	5:35 p.m.	Hartsville	WHSC	6:35 p.m.
Grand Forks	KILO	1:00 p.m.	Orangeburg	WOIX	9:30 p.m.
Jamestown	KEYJ	5:35 p.m.	Rock Hill	WRHI	6:35 p.m.
Minot	KLPM	5:35 p.m.	SOUTH DAKOTA		
Oakes	KEYD	4:35 p.m.	Huron	KIJV	5:35 p.m.
Valley City	KOVC	4:35 p.m.	Mitchell	KORN	5:35 p.m.
OHIO			Watertown	KWAT	5:35 p.m.
Dover	WJER	6:35 p.m.	TENNESSEE		
Ironton	WIRO	6:35 p.m.	Athens	WLAR	6:35 p.m.
Toledo	WSPD	9:30 a.m.	Columbia	WKRM	1:30 p.m.
OKLAHOMA			Dayton	WDNT	
Ardmore	KVSO	8:30 p.m.	Fayetteville	WEKR	6:35 p.m.
Enid	KCRC	8:30 p.m.	Jackson	WTJS	8:30 p.m.
Lawton	KSWO	9:05 p.m.	Johnson City	WETB	8:05 a.m.
McAlister	KNED	1:30 p.m.	Lexington	WDXL	1:00 p.m.
Miami	KGLC	5:35 p.m.	Livingston	WLIV	5:35 p.m.
Poteau	KLCO	1:00 p.m.	McMinnville	KBMC	9:00 a.m.
Tulsa	KTUL	8:30 a.m.	Manchester	WMSR	
Wewoka	KWSH	8:30 p.m.	Morristown	WCRK	9:35 p.m.
OREGON			Murfreesboro	WGNS	
Astoria	WAST	3:35 p.m.	Nashville	WSIX	9:30 p.m.
Coos Bay	KOOS	8:30 p.m.	Oak Ridge	WOKE	9:00 a.m.
Coquille	KWRO	8:30 a.m.	Oneida	WBNT	
Eugene	KASH	8:30 p.m.	TEXAS		
Lakeview	KQIK	8:30 a.m.	Abilene	KRBC	8:15 a.m.
PENNSYLVANIA			Amarillo	KGNC	1:05 p.m.
Altoona	WRTA	9:30 p.m.	Bay City	KIOX	5:35 p.m.
Coatsville	WCOJ	5:30 p.m.	Big Spring	KBST	6:30 p.m.
Huntington	WHUN	9:30 a.m.	Borger	KHUZ	5:35 p.m.

**THE HERALD OF TRUTH MAY BE HEARD
OVER THESE ABC AND MBS STATIONS**

OVER THE AIR			OVER THE AIR		
City	Station	Time	City	Station	Time
Brownwood	KBWD	5:35 p.m.	Seattle	KTW	9:30 p.m.
Bryan	KCRB	5:35 p.m.	Tacoma	KLAY	
Clarksville	KCAR	8:30 a.m.	Walla Walla	KTEL	8:30 p.m.
Dallas	KSKL	2:05 p.m.	Wenatchee	KUEN	10:15 a.m.
Eagle Pass	KEPS		WEST VIRGINIA		
Freeport	KBRZ		Charleston	WHMS	10:00 p.m.
Graham	KSWA	4:30 p.m.	Clarksburg	WHAR	6:35 p.m.
Houston	KXYZ	10:05 p.m.	Logan	WLOG	6:35 p.m.
Huntsville	KSAM	6:00 p.m.	Montgomery	WMON	6:35 p.m.
Killeen	KLEN	5:35 p.m.	Parkersburg	WTAP	8:00 a.m.
Longview	KFRO	8:30 p.m.	St. Albans	WKLC	9:30 a.m.
Midland	KCRS	1:30 p.m.	Williamson	WBTH	6:35 p.m.
Monahans	KVKM	5:35 p.m.	WISCONSIN		
Nacodoches	KKEE	8:30 p.m.	Eau Claire	WBIZ	5:35 p.m.
Pampa	KHHH		Fond du Lac	KFIZ	5:35 p.m.
Pampa	KPDN	5:35 p.m.	Hayward	WHSM	5:35 p.m.
Pleasanton	KBOP	8:30 p.m.	Madison	WIBA	8:00 a.m.
Rosenburg	KFRD	9:00 a.m.	Manitowoc	WOMT	5:35 p.m.
San Antonio	KMAC	8:30 p.m.	Poynette		
Sherman			Madison	WIBU	5:35 p.m.
Denison	KRRV	5:35 p.m.	Reedsburg	WRDB	5:35 p.m.
Texarkana	KCMC	8:30 p.m.	Superior	WGMN	5:35 p.m.
			Wausau	WSAU	9:00 a.m.
UTAH			WYOMING		
Provo	KIXX	8:30 a.m.	Casper	KTWO	9:15 a.m.
VERMONT			Douglas	KWIV	1:30 p.m.
Brattleboro	KWVT	1:05 p.m.	Thermopolis	KTAG	1:30 p.m.
VIRGINIA			FOREIGN		
Bristol	WFHG	6:35 p.m.	CANADA		
Culpeper	WCVA	6:35 p.m.	Blind River,		
Fredricksburg	WFVA	8:30 a.m.	Ont.	CJNR	10:15 a.m.
Lynchburg	WLVA	9:30 p.m.	Toronto, Ont.	CKEY	9:15 a.m.
Radford	WRAD		Winnipeg,		
Richmond	WMBG	9:30 p.m.	Manatoba	CKY	11:00 p.m.
Waynesboro	WAYB	6:35 p.m.	BERMUDA		
WASHINGTON			Pembroke	ZBM	1:30 p.m.
Centralia-			LIBERIA		
Chehalis	KELA	3:35 p.m.	Monrovia	ELBC	4:30 p.m.
Kennewick	KPKW	8:30 p.m.	PHILIPINES		
Mt. Vernon	KBRC	9:30 a.m.	PHILIPPINES		
Omak	KOMW	9:15 a.m.			

This list is not 100% correct due to frequent changes.

All times are Sunday unless otherwise indicated.

Check your local newspaper or radio station for times not listed.

unprofitable to that soul as the elders gave an account of that soul unto the Lord?

HEART BECOMES CORRUPT

"But," says one, "the heart of a Christian can't sin." Well, turn with me, this time to Hebrews 3:12. It reads, "Take heed brethern" — not the devil's family, but "brethern." "Take heed, brethern, lest haply there shall be in any one of you an evil heart of unbelief, in **Falling Away From the living God.**" Your King James Version says, "in departing from the living God." Here the heart of a Christian may become evil; may become an unbelieving heart, may actually depart from the living God. Now I ask you, are we to teach our children from the cradle up that once children of God they need not fear, for their hearts cannot become evil; their hearts cannot become unbelieving hearts; that their hearts cannot depart from the living God? My friends, what becomes of the evil hearts of this earth? Of the unbelievers? Of those who depart from the living God? Is it possible they are saved the same as those whose hearts have remained pure, whose faith has never been overthrown, and who have never forsaken the Lord? Ah, my good people, it still remains, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Here the heart may become evil, unbelieving, and forsake the Lord; then tell me: that child of God is saved? No, my friends!

THE MIND CORRUPT

May I now show you that even the mind of a Christian may become corrupt? Turn with me this time to II Corinthians 11, verse 3. It reads, "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve in his craftiness, your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity and the purity that is toward Christ." What can be plainer than this? Here their mind could become corrupted from the "purity in Christ." But you ask, "Brother Harper, to whom is Paul writing? Maybe he is not writing to the saved?" Well let the Bible answer. In verse two it reads, "For I am jealous over you with a godly jealousy; I espoused you to one husband, that I might present you as a pure virgin to Christ." Now their minds are becoming corrupted from that purity in Christ and he fears lest he shall not be able to present them to Christ, — yes, unless they clean up their minds, repent of their sins, confess them to God, and as children of God to forgive them of their sins.

CONCLUSION

You see, these to whom he wrote in II Corinthians 11 had believed and had been baptized (Acts 18:8), those of the Hebrew letter had their "bodies washed with pure water" (Hebrews 10:22) and baptism is the only place in the gospel where we find water used. The saved in Thessalonica had "obeyed the gospel of Christ" and that gospel teaches

man to "believe and be baptized" (Mark 16:15-16). So, my friends, all these who were recognized as God's children in our New Testament from Pentecost to the closing of Revelation were those whose faith had led them to be baptized as commanded by Christ in His Great Commission. They were all members of the church and yet their "bodies, spirits, souls, hearts, and minds" could all sin and become corrupt in the sight of God. And that is all there is to any man! Yes, God's child may be lost.

I close now with the reading of Galatians 5:4, "Ye are severed from Christ, who would be justified by the law: **Ye Are Fallen Away From Grace.**" How could they have fallen away from grace had they never been in God's grace? Did you know that your Bible said in plain words, "Ye are fallen away from grace?" Now what shall become of the soul of God's child that falls away from grace? It shall die, be lost, unless it repents of this sin.

EXAMPLES

Judas died in sin; Ananias and Sapphira died, lying to the Holy Spirit; Hymenaeus and Alexander were turned over to Satan; some actually departed from the faith. Read Matthew 27:5; Acts 6, I Timothy 1:20 and I Timothy 4:1-4. These could be multiplied.

Your Bible in Galatians 6:7 reads: "Be not deceived, God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth unto his own flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth unto the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap eternal life." This was written to Christians, every one of whom had been "baptized into Christ" (Galatians 3:27).

Have you believed and have you been baptized into Christ? If not, why not do that today is my prayer in the holy name of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

~

Corpus Christi, Texas
March 24, 1961

Dear Brethren in Christ:

A new friend of mine was baptized this morning. The wonderful sermons in your Herald of Truth pamphlet helped to convert her. I only wish we could have your programs in Corpus Christi — in both English and Spanish. The Spanish people are ready for the truth too — if we only had enough workers who could speak to them.

Your sister in Christ,
Mrs. C. H.

THE CHRISTIAN'S HOPE

ABC and MBS Networks

By E. R. Harper

Radio Sermon No. 486

May 21, 1961

When death has kissed your eyes to sleep; when loving hearts have closed down the lid upon your casket; when the flowers have been carefully draped around your grave; when the minister has bowed his head in the final benediction; and the crowd slowly walks away from your grave and there alone in death you sleep, what will be your hope? Will you have a hope? Or, will your family return home never to see you again unless they too are lost? With this in mind, I wanted to bring you this lesson today, "The Christian's Hope."

TWO WAYS OR ROADS

Before every child of God there are two ways that he may travel. One is the flesh, the other the Spirit. We read in Romans 8:1, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit," and verse 4 reads, "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." As I have pointed out in previous lessons, the way of the flesh is "death" for, said Paul in Romans 6:23, "The wages of sin is death." To the churches of Galatia Paul wrote in Chapter 5, and verse 21, "They which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." The outstanding thing about these letters is this: They were all addressed to Christians. Those in Rome and in Galatia had all been "baptized into Christ" (Romans 6:3; Galatians 3:27). Yes, Paul warned them that they could be lost.

IS THERE A CONTRADICTION?

In your Bible there is another group of Scriptures which are used to prove that the child of God cannot be lost.

They are called the "Positive Scriptures." The passages I have used thus far are referred to as the "Negative Scriptures." My friends, these passages must blend into one harmonious truth, else the man who knows not the Scriptures may get the impression that the Bible is a book of contradictions. This is the way infidels are being made today. The Bible cannot teach both conflicting doctrines and be a book of reliable integrity.

Our purpose therefore today is to find this blending of truth. When this is accomplished we shall see the beauty of God's Word as it warns the child of God against the impending death for sin, as given in these

negative passages, and at the same time gives to God's child the assurance he must have, as found in the positive Scriptures, which assurance inspires him to surrender to Christ, for he is convinced that he serves a God who is able and who will make good every promise made to him in the Bible.

You are ready to ask, "Brother Harper, if these positive passages do not teach that God's child cannot be lost, then what do they teach? Herein lies the beauty of my lesson today on the subject, "The Christian's Hope."

PASSAGES GIVEN

In John chapter 10, verses 27-30, we have the most renowned of them all. It reads, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand. My Father who hath given them unto me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and my Father are one." Here it is claimed, is is the passage that guarantees to God's child that no matter what sins he may commit, God will never let go of him. The question is, Does this passage mean to teach God's child that he may commit every sin known to man and that without fear of God's letting go of him? Should it teach this, then we would have a plain contradiction, for in Galatians 5:19-21 the sins of the flesh are enumerated, some 19 of them, with the plain declaration to God's children that "they who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

In the first place, let us notice what the Lord has said about His sheep. In Matthew 10, verse 6, after having selected the twelve He said to them, "But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, and as ye go, preach saying the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Friends, do we have a contradiction here? In John 10:26-30, Christ said of His sheep, "No man can snatch them out of my hands," but here in Matthew He refers to some of His sheep as "lost sheep" and sends the apostles to bring them back to repentance. They were called "lost sheep." If there be no blending of these passages and if the doctrine of "once saved always saved" be taught then God's word contradicts itself. Now just what is the beauty of this wonderful passage found in John 10:26-30? Here these sheep are they who "hear his voice"; who "will not follow a stranger"; who remain in the Savior's hand. To them is made the promise that no power is able to "snatch them out of His hand."

The word "snatch" is the key word to this passage. If one could snatch us from the hand of the Lord, there would be no hope for any of us, for the wolf might come and while the Lord, who is our Shepherd, is not watching, snatch us away and destroy us. You see I may walk out of His hand, but so long as I remain in His hand, I have the promise that no power is able to snatch me from the hand of the Lord.

Let me show you from this same chapter the truth of what I have said to you. In verses 17-18 Christ talking says of Himself, "Therefore doth the Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again. No one taketh it away from me. but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again." Here, no one could take his life from him but He of His own accord could "lay it down and pick it up" again. Just so with us. No one can snatch us from the hand of the Lord, but we may walk out from His hand into sin and then, if penitent of that sin, we may walk back into that wounded hand. outstretched as it always is to receive His child back from sin. This passage was not given to teach His sheep they could sin without being lost, but to give them the incentive, the hope, the blessed assurance that they serve a God who is able to make come true every promise made to them if they will but hear His voice, follow Him, and remain in His hand. He made no such promise to those lost sheep who had strayed away. Now in John 10, there were sheep that were not lost. What was the difference? One strayed away, walked out from His hand; the other remained in His hand, they heard His voice and followed Him. Let us thank God for such a hope that no power is able to snatch us from the hand of our Lord, for if there should be a power capable of snatching us from His hand, we would have no hope in this world nor in the world to come. This is "The Christian's Hope!" This blends beautifully the two groups of scriptures, the one showing the danger of straying away; the other holding up to us the blessed hope of life eternal if we but follow Him and hear His voice. Any other explanation and these scriptures become a hopeless contradiction, and infidels are born.

II TIMOTHY 1:12

Another great verse of scripture used to show that God's child can't be lost is that beautiful declaration made by Paul in II Timothy 1:12. Here Paul says, "For which cause I suffer also these things: yet I am not ashamed, for I know him whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able to keep (or guard) that which I have committed unto him against that day." Now they say to me, "Brother Harper, can't you see that when once we commit our soul unto God He is able to keep it?" Yes my friends, a thousand times yes. This is why I have committed my soul to Him. It is because He can guard it; He can keep it; no one can pluck me out of His hands. God the Father has given me to Him and God is greater than all and God and my love are one, says Christ in John Chapter 10. But this is a far cry from saying that when I placed my soul in His care that I could then run the gauntlet of sins. So long as I commit my soul to Him, He is able to guard it; He is able to keep it. No power is able to steal into that sacred sanctuary and "snatch it from His care." But I myself may take it from His care and deposit it in the devil's realm and there lives not a man who can present the passage that shows that Christ has promised to guard my soul while it is on deposit with the devil. You know the old argument about my depositing my money with the bank. That if the president of the bank, if the cashier

of the bank, if all the officials of the bank were honest, I may go home and sleep soundly for I could know my money was safe. Then it is said that God is the President of Heaven's Bank; Christ is its Cashier, and the Holy Spirit its Protector and therefore no man could steal that soul deposited in Heaven's Bank unless either God, Christ, or the Spirit were unfaithful. Then such passages are given as II Thessalonians 3:3 where it reads: "But the Lord is faithful, who shall establish you, and guard you from the evil one." This is all wonderful if we do not misunderstand it. But here it is God who is faithful to us. We must also be faithful to Him.

Now my money is safe in the bank if those connected with it are honest, but I walk up to the bank, write out a check, sign my name to it, draw out my money. A man places a gun in my back, robs me of my money; what would you think of me were I to go running back to the bank and say to them, "You promised me if I would place my account with you it would be safe"? They would reply, and rightfully so, "Sir, so long as you left your money with us in our bank we did protect it, but we made no such promise to protect it after you had drawn it from the bank," this we can all understand.

Just so it is with Heaven's Bank. I deposit my soul with Heaven's Bank. I go home and lie down in peaceful sleep knowing that God is faithful and that no invader may enter that bank to snatch or pluck or steal my soul from God. That is the "Christian's Hope"; that is his guarantee; that is the incentive that leads him to deposit his soul with the Lord. But this is far from saying to that child of God who walks up to the Bank of Heaven and draws out his deposit, his soul, and places it in the vaults of the devil's bank for a night of sinful revelry, where he is dancing, drinking and gambling, and possibly killing, that he need not fear, for the Bank of Heaven has guaranteed his deposit, that it shall never be lost. We must remember that in Heaven's Bank, you make no deposits of liquor and beer; you make no deposits on dance halls, road-houses; you make no deposits on gambling dens, all of which are after the flesh and may lead to murder and to the destruction of all that is fine, noble and honorable in men. To cash that kind of check you have to check out your account in the Bank of Heaven, and place it on deposit in the bank of Satan. God has made no guarantees for the deposits of His children, should they withdraw their deposit, which they have committed unto Him, and try to protect it by their own power or to deposit it in the bank of sin in Satan's vaults. Oh, how these passages, beautiful as they are, and assuring as they speak to our souls, are used to teach the wrong lessons.

WHAT IS THEIR STRENGTH?

You ask, "Brother Harper, what then is the strength of such passages?"

How I shall enjoy answering this question. John, chapter 10, and II Timothy 1 are given to us for a hope sure and steadfast; a hope that

will cause us to want to serve the Lord and live for Him. When our bodies lie cold in death awaiting the resurrection, if there were a power that could snatch us from the hand of God; if there were no power to guard that which we have committed unto Him, so long as we hear His voice; follow Him, remain in His wounded hand; then we would go to our graves without assurance that all was well. But I think here of my precious little girl, just 26, who had believed in her Lord, who had repented of her sins; who had confessed her faith in Christ as God's Son and who, with this faith had gone with her Master into the waters of baptism, to be buried with Him and to rise to walk with Him, as she said in her passing, "I am a Christian; I am not afraid to die." Why, my darling, were you not afraid to die?" She heard His voice; she had followed Him; she had committed her soul to His care; she fell asleep in His wounded hands, and those Scriptures, my dear friends, are the Scriptures that give to us "The Christian's Hope" that we serve a God who is able to "keep that which we have committed unto Him against that day." They do not teach His child that he may commit every sin known and die in them and still be saved. They are the passages that are given to encourage him to give up that way of life and follow Christ, for He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God by Christ. This, my friends, is the blending of these beautiful Scriptures!

If you are not a Christian, come today believing in your Lord and be baptized into Him, Christ, that you may also rise to walk a new life, in my only prayer in the blessed name of the Lord.

~

Dothan, Alabama
February 28, 1961

Dear Sir:

I have listened with intense interest to many of your sermons, but this is the first request that I have made for any of your messages. I would appreciate you sending me the sermon by Mr. Rocky, when he spoke on the subject taken from Paul's quotation, "For me to die is gain" and any other sermons that you have had on your program in the past.

I would be pleased if you send me a weekly copy of all your messages on the "Herald of Truth," and also some of the sermons Mr. Baxter preached on your program.

Your consideration of this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,
M. C. C.

MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH CHRIST

ABC and MBS Networks

By E. R. Harper

Radio Sermon No. 487

May 28, 1961

I am discussing with you today a subject, the thought of which should thrill our very souls and inspire our hearts to reach for greater heights in the work of our Lord and to look for brighter hopes beyond the dark and silent confines of the grave. So long as we are in the prime of life or enjoying the blessings of health, death and the grave are words that send chills throughout every part of our earthly beings. All men, women, boys and girls pray to live, for to live amidst the beauties of this world, a world so wonderfully and beautifully prepared by the hand of God for our short journey here, is such a pleasure to us all.

If the hearts listening to me now would only believe your Bible, conform your lives in keeping with its teachings, I believe the hearts of men would be prepared to understand and appreciate my lesson today, the subject of which is "More Than Conquerors Through Christ."

Because they sing the praises of men who have been great conquerors, to reach that goal, that their names may be immortalized upon the pages of history, men have led millions of innocent boys to the slaughter of battle.

Their names soon may die. The cause for which they slaughtered the innocent may be forgotten, but to attain such fame men will again dare to plunge this earth into a sea of destruction; this time, the destruction of the civilized world could be the price they would dare pay, hoping for their names to go down among the conquerors of the world. That kind of heroes I am not discussing. The conqueror of today's message is one that transcends all the conquerors of this earth. The conqueror of this lesson rises to heights never known by the Caesars who ruled the world for centuries as Rome lived in all her glory. It surpasses all fame ascribed to Napoleon of France. The conqueror of my lesson today is one whose praise a Hitler, in all of his glory could not attain, only watch it fade away into insignificance. Not even the conquerors of the ancient world, Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, Darius and Cyrus of Medo-Persia, sitting as they did on thrones of silver and gold, nor Alexander the Great, who conquered all the world and died at the young age of thirty and three, weeping because there were no more worlds to conquer, could claim the crown of the hero of my lesson today.

You are ready to ask, "Brother Harper, who is this conqueror? What has he conquered? Who is his captain, his commanding officer who has trained him to attain such heights or to be worthy of such an inscription

MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH CHRIST

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over his grave, that here sleeps one who is "More Than A Conqueror"? Let our Bible answer this question for us.

ROMANS 8:36-37

In Romans, chapter 8 verses 36 to 37, we have this reading: "Even as it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Are you ready to ask, "Who was this man who loved us so?" Happy am I to present him to you or to acquaint you with him. In John 3:16 we read, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have everlasting life." Again in I John 4:10 we have these immortal words, "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." In Hebrew 2:10 the writer says, "For it became him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through suffering." This is Christ our Lord. From this we must conclude that man alone, apart from Christ, can never rise to heights so sublime, for man of himself possesses not the power to reach that state, that place in life where it may be truthfully said of him, "Here lies a man who is more than a conqueror." If it could have been reached the heroes of the past would have already claimed that title. Their fame had to be proclaimed, standing as they did in a sea of blood from the veins of innocent men and rising to heights on the tragic sacrifice of the youth of nations. Such renown, ascribed to any man, bought at the sacrifice of human suffering, can never be said, truthfully to be the conquerors of those who follow the lowly Nazarene; that great Personality who won the hearts of men, not by human sacrifice for His own personal glory, but by His own personal sacrifice for their good here and for their eternal glory in that world to come.

To have your name inscribed in that hall of fame where such worthies have their name written by the hand of God, is not attained alone by the works of man, apart from Christ. Men cannot buy a place among these honored dead. It is not ascribed unto them because of personal merit of their own, by which merit Christ becomes obligated to them, apart from the blood atonement made on Calvary. This reward comes to the man who surrenders his will, his life, his all to the way of the cross, to the Christ of that cross; to the man who is able to remain faithful to that love that Christ bestowed upon poor fallen man, never allowing himself to be separated from such a love. This man soars above the heroes of the past, mentioned before in our lesson, as does the eagle wing its way above the birds of the air, as he sits atop the highest summit of the snow-capped mountains, looking down upon his fellow-creatures below.

WHAT GROUNDS FOR OUR LOVE

Let us now look at the grounds for our loving Christ to such an extent that nothing could separate us from Him and by remaining in His

love we are allowed to be among the honored dead who can truthfully have said of us, "We are more than conquerors through Christ that loved us." Beginning with Romans, chapter 8 verse 1, we have these words, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus . . . who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit." How thankful our hearts should be that today, we are given a law that is able to free us from the original law of "sin and death." That law demanded the death of every man for his sins, for said the prophet Ezekiel, chapter 18 and verse 20, "The soul that sinneth it shall die." The patriarchal dispensation knew no power to free man from this law. The law of Moses, in which the Ten Commandments are to be found, possessed not the power to blot out the law that demanded death for sin. Now in Christ Jesus, the captain of our salvation, we have given a law by which we may be freed from that law that demanded our death for our personal sins (Romans 8:1-4). That law is the "law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus." You may be anxious to know why I am stressing the question of our being taken away from this love? In Romans chapter 8 and verse 35 is asked of those who had been "baptized into Christ" (chapter 6:3-4) the question, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" The apostles had just told them of all the hopes, dreams, and precious promises that could be theirs through Christ. In view of all these he was pleading with them to know if there were any power on earth great enough to separate them from the love that had done so much for them, one blessing of which was to "free them from the law of sin and death."

In verses 17 and 18 he told them that being children of God they were heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ" and that their sufferings here were nothing to "be compared with the glory which should be revealed to you-ward." In this great letter is one of the greatest blessings, I think, ever promised the child of God, made possible by Christ our Lord. Paul says, "And in like manner the Spirit also helpeth our infirmity: for we know not how to pray as we ought: but the Spirit, himself, maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered; and he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercessions for the saints according to the will of God." Forsake a love like that? Be separated from one who loves us to such an extent that the Spirit will make intercessions for us? No, my friends, for through Him and by Him we may rise above the sorrows of this world and become "more than conquerors through him that loved us" and died for us that we might be freed from the "law of sin and of death."

It is in this chapter that we have the promise that "all things work together for the good to them that love God, who are called according to his purpose." To those who had been baptized into Christ by being "buried with him by baptism into death" to "rise to walk in a newness of life" (Romans 6:3-4), Paul told them they were the called according to God's purpose that they were foreknown and also "foreordained to be conformed to the image of God's Son." These were they to whom the promise was made that they had been "justified," that they might be

"glorified." Having pointed out all these blessings through Christ, he then asks this question, "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" "More than conquerors?" Yet, a thousand times more than earthly conquerors, for God and Christ His Son are with us to bless us and to glorify us, not with earthly glory, but with the righteousness of Christ, our Lord, a glory that knows no end and fades not away with the passing of time. Leave a love like that? No wonder Paul asked of them, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" The love of God was so great that "he spared not his own Son, but delivered Him up for us all," then promises to give to those who "walk after the Spirit" all things. He promises them that there is none "who can lay anything to the charge of God's elect" . . . "It is God that justifieth." He asked the elect of God, those who were walking after the Spirit, those who had been conformed to the image of God's Son this question: "Who is he that condemneth?" Said Paul, "It is Christ Jesus that died, yea rather, that was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us." Is there any wonder, therefore, that Paul asked them the question in the next verse, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?"

Having pointed out to them all these marvelous blessings, promising to them if they would walk after the Spirit that no power could condemn them and that God would give unto them all things, he then poses this question to them: "Shall tribulations or anguish or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or even the sword" separate you from a love like this, which love is in Jesus Christ? He isn't asking if Christ will cease to love us, but will we cease to love Him? Would you, in order to escape all these things asked Paul, surrender one who loves you so tenderly and who is able to bless you with life eternal in the paradise of God? He declares that they were willing to be killed "and counted as sheep for the slaughter" rather than forsake such a love. This shows clearly that we may forsake a love like this.

THE CONCLUSION

Then Paul reaches the climax of his letter to them in these words: "Nay in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us." Now listen to the heights to which the Spirit takes him as he says, "For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." No Caesar, no Napoleon, no Darius or Cyrus, no Kaiser, has ever attained such lofty heights as these saints of God. The love Christ has for them enabled them to suffer all things and in the language of your Bible concerning Moses, the servant of God, it can be said of them, "they accounted the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt (Hebrews 11:26), "for they looked unto the recompenses of the reward" and as it was said of Abraham, verses 10:13 for they "looked for a city

whose builder and maker is God," and by "faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them and confessed they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth."

This is what makes heroes of men! This is what makes men "more than conquerors through Christ! They conquer not men and nations at the price of innocent blood; they have conquered self and the passions of the world, and now they may look away beyond the grave to a world made ready for the heroes of Christian love, to take their places among the renowned of all the ages past, assured that over their names, in the courts of heaven shall be written these words: **More Than Conquerors Through Christ our Lord.**

Are you a Christian? If not, will you not come today and as did these to whom this letter was written, believing in your Lord, and be buried with Him by baptism into death, to be raised with Him to walk in newness of life and then to honor Him by never allowing yourself to be separated from Him who has loved you so, is my prayer in the blessed name of Him through whom we become "More Than Conquerors," Christ our Lord.

~

Garfield, Ark.
March 2, 1961

Dear Brethren:

I am enclosing a check for \$5.00 for the Antioch Church of Christ. I think it is really a worth-while program. I thank God that we can have a small part in helping send the truth to so many people.

G. C.

~

Escalon, Calif.
March 11, 1961

Dear Brothers in Christ:

I am enclosing \$5.00 to help in a small way to spread the Gospel of Christ through the Herald of Truth. At the present time we are unable to hear the program over radio and T.V. but we do enjoy so much the sermons we receive each month. Our prayer is that more and more will see the need to help this work, which we think is the best way we know of to reach people with the Truth. May the Lord continue to bless you in your efforts.

Yours in Christ
C. L. E.

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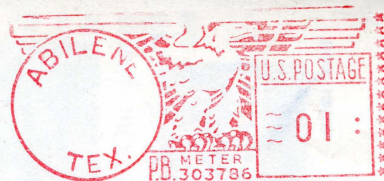
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